
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8205

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, Stevens and Esser

Read first time 01/17/2003. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 STATE OF WASHINGTON, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION ASSEMBLED:

3 THAT, At the next general election to be held in this state the
4 secretary of state shall submit to the qualified voters of the state
5 for their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to
6 Article VII, section 1 of the Constitution of the state of Washington
7 to read as follows:

8 Article VII, section 1. The power of taxation shall never be
9 suspended, surrendered or contracted away. All tax increases must be
10 specifically authorized by a majority vote of the people within the
11 territorial limits of the authority proposing the tax increase unless
12 the tax increase is approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of all
13 the members elected to each house. All taxes shall be uniform upon the
14 same class of property within the territorial limits of the authority
15 levying the tax and shall be levied and collected for public purposes
16 only. The word "property" as used herein shall mean and include
17 everything, whether tangible or intangible, subject to ownership. All
18 real estate shall constitute one class: *Provided*, That the legislature
19 may tax mines and mineral resources and lands devoted to reforestation
20 by either a yield tax or an ad valorem tax at such rate as it may fix,

1 or by both. Such property as the legislature may by general laws
2 provide shall be exempt from taxation. Property of the United States
3 and of the state, counties, school districts and other municipal
4 corporations, and credits secured by property actually taxed in this
5 state, not exceeding in value the value of such property, shall be
6 exempt from taxation. The legislature shall have power, by appropriate
7 legislation, to exempt personal property to the amount of three
8 thousand (\$3,000.00) dollars for each head of a family liable to
9 assessment and taxation under the provisions of the laws of this state
10 of which the individual is the actual bona fide owner.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause
12 notice of this constitutional amendment to be published at least four
13 times during the four weeks next preceding the election in every legal
14 newspaper in the state.

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